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“As matters stand in the Muslim world today, it is the decline of religious leadership from the Islamic stan

The Quranic Foundations and Structure of Muslim Society (in two volumes) was written by the distinguis

Dr. Iqbal had made a significant call, in a series of public lectures delivered in the 1930's, for the “reo

Even while he responded to Iqbal's call, Maulana did not agree that Islamic religious thought was so def

Maulana commenced his book by identifying the forces that were responsible for the attacks. A Christian

Islamic scholarship responded to those Euro-Jewish/Euro-Christian attacks in two different ways, and M

The second response was that of ‘Islamic modernism’, and it went to the other extreme in an attempt to

The Qur'an itself had prohibited such Muslim friendship and alliance with such Jews and Christians who
“Oh you who believe (in this Qur'an) do not take (such) Jews and the Christians as (your) friends and all
(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:51)

Maulana rejected and condemned both ‘Islamic conservatism’ and ‘Islamic modernism’. Indeed his book
“... neither Hurgronje, nor the other orientalis, could cleanse themselves of the poison inherited from
(Volume 1, p. 2)

Maulana searched within the Qur'an itself for the response to the challenge of western thought. This req

But Maulana was forced to recognize that the assault on the religious way of life had resulted in large nu

“The truly-westernised, secularised, modernised Muslims, who are emerging as the major controlling for
modes of life for imitation and adoption.”

Muslim scholars and leaders who are but carbon-copies of the West are busy trying to modernize Islam

An essentially godless Europe that had conveniently cloaked itself in medieval times in the garb of Chris

In the midst of all of this Europe succeeded in 'liberating' the Holy Land of Muslim rule and then in restor

It is not now possible to take control of territory anywhere in the world in order to establish Islam as a 'Pu
“Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet said: Black banners shall emerge from Khorasan and no force
(Sunan Tirmidhi)

But the world of Islam may not have to wait for more than a few more decades before that army triumph

How should Muslims respond to the relentlessly increasing attacks on Islam and on Muslim society thes

Dr. Ansari also realised that the attack of the west extended beyond the intellectual to include the moral

“The basic purpose and function of this book is to state the Philosophy and the Code of Life as given in t

The central importance for morality that has emerged thus should impress upon the Muslims the central

Viewed in that perspective, the present book forms a basic contribution in respect of extricating Muslim s

The method of exposition adopted is simple and direct. Moreover, personal comments have been kept a
(Volume 1, Preface)

The book attempts to respond to the tremendous challenge to the religious way of life in general, and to

He has also articulated the concept of Islamic spirituality with great care and quite some detail and in so

But the book has also made a stirring call for the creation of true leaders of the Muslim community. It is p

“The religious leadership that emerges thus in the Islamic Community is that of ‘teachers’ and ‘guides’ a
“It is He Who has sent amongst the Unlettered a Messenger from among themselves, to rehearse to the
(Qur’an, al-Jum’ah, 62:2)

In short, he should be a miniature representative of the Holy Prophet’s Personality, and as such should l
“Alif Lam Ra. A Book which We have revealed unto thee, in order that thou mightest lead mankind out o
(Qur’an, Ibrahim, 14:1)

... the teacher himself acting through the Light bestowed on him by God:
“Can he who was dead, to whom We gave life, and a Light whereby he can walk amongst men, be like h
(Qur’an, al-An’am, 6:122)

No other category of religious leadership emerges in the Qur’anic Guidance. Those who possess only s
“O ye who believe! Why say ye that which ye do not? Grievously odious is it in the sight of Allah that ye
(Qur’an, al-Saff, 61:2, 3)

Jewish religious leaders of yore have been similarly denounced:

“The similitude of those who were charged with the (obligations of the). Mosaic Law, but who subsequen
(Qur’an, al-Juma’ah, 62:5)

At best, the scholastics can function only as formal transmitters of the information they possess, and not

It is urgent that Muslims pay due heed to the Qur’anic warning:

“And be not among those who join gods with Allah - those who split up their religion and become (mere)
(Qur’an, al-Rum, 30:31-32)

The prestige of Islam meanwhile suffers damage after damage and the millet as a whole courts defeat a

“The Qur’anic Foundations and Structure of Muslim Society” constitutes a textbook, workbook, and a veri